

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A magnetic head using magneto-resistive effect includes a spin-valve type giantmagneto-resistive effect element or tunnel-typemagneto-resistive effect element type lamination layer structure portion in which a free layer 4 made of a soft magnetic material of which the magnetization is rotated in response to an external magnetic field, a fixed layer 6 made of a ferromagnetic material, an antiferromagnetic layer 7 for fixing the magnetization of this fixed layer 6 and a spacer layer 5, i.e., nonmagnetic conductive layer or a tunnel barrier layer are laminated with each other. In particular, the lamination layer structure portion has opposing side surfaces formed of one flat surface or continuous one curved surface over at least the free layer and the nonmagnetic conductive layer or the tunnel barrier layer and the fixed layer in its lamination layer direction and a positional relationship can be selected in such a manner that the magnetization of the free layer 4 may be reliably stabilized by the magnetic field from the hard magnetic layer. At the same time, since the widths of the respective layers can be formed as substantially the same pattern, the magneto-resistive effect element and the magnetic head using magneto-resistive effect can be increased in sensitivity and the manufacturing methods of themagneto-resistive effect element and the magnetic head using magneto-resistive effect can be simplified.